11

deposition (LPCVD), rapid thermal chemical vapor deposition (RTCVD) or atomic layer deposition (ALD).

- 11. A method according to claim 10, wherein the silicon nitride film has a thickness of approximately 50 to 200 Å.
- 12. A method according to claim 7, wherein the second hardmask layer comprises a poly-silicon or an amorphous silicon film.

12

- 13. A method according to claim 12, wherein the silicon film is deposited via low pressure chemical vapor deposition (LPCVD), rapid thermal chemical vapor deposition (RTCVD) or atomic layer deposition (ALD).
- 14. A method according to claim 12, wherein the silicon film has a thickness of approximately 100 Å to 300 Å.

* * * * *